From: Jay Field

Eric Blischke/R10/USEPA/US@EPA To: MESL; Robert W. Gensemer; Robert Neely

## Cc: Re: Sample document TSMD Draft Final Technical Report (text) Subject: Date: 02/16/2009 01:06 PM Attachments: PH Tox RefStations 090212.xls Based on the attached report and the MacDonald/Landrum Portland Harbor Benthic Risk Evaluation, my understanding of the recommended approach is as follows: 1) designate samples as toxic/non-toxic based on the 5th percentile of each of the survival and biomass endpoints for each test species. these toxic/non-toxic thresholds would be used in model development. 2) designate low-risk toxicity thresholds and high-risk toxicity thresholds based on 10% and 20% percent reduction from each of the mean response for the survival and biomass endpoints for each test species (subtraction from the mean response by 10% and 20% of the mean). these toxicity thresholds would be used to evaluate model performance. the attached spreadsheet shows my interpretation of the approach with calculations (and the formulas used) using the PH reference locations. so, assuming my interpretation of the MacDonald/Landrum recommendations is correct, my questions for LWG: 1) are they using 5th percentile response values for model development? 2) are they calculating the low-risk toxicity thresholds and high-risk toxicity thresholds based on the 10% and 20% percent reduction from the mean responses? Jay Blischke.Eric@epamail.epa.gov wrote: > Thanks for sending this along Don. > Jay, I am assuming that you will use this to develop your information > request to the LWG. > Eric "MEST." <mesl@shaw.ca> "Jay Field" <jay.field@noaa.gov> 02/12/2009 04:30 CC Eric Blischke/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, "Robert W. Gensemer" <rgensemer@parametrix.com> Subject Sample document TSMD Draft Final Technical Report (text)

> Jay:

> As per our recent discussion, I understand that there could be some > misunderstanding regarding the recommended procedures for designating > samples as toxic and not toxic, as well as for identifying toxicity > thresholds (i.e., T10 and T20 values). To assist you in better understanding these procedures, I have attached a copy of our report for > the TSMD. This report illustrates the methods on a step-by-step basis. > Please call to discuss.

Cheers, > Don

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> 250-729-9625 (general); 729-9623 (Don); 729 <<a01TSMD Biological Data
> Evaluation 2008\_Volume I\_Vers4\_Feb09.pdf>> -9628 (Fax)

> [attachment "a01TSMD Biological Data Evaluation 2008\_Volume > I\_Vers4\_Feb09.pdf" deleted by Eric Blischke/R10/USEPA/US]

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